

Claims

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A lottery terminal capable of canceling a uniquely numbered lottery ticket having a control number and an area with thermally reactive coating material disposed thereon, the terminal comprising:

a microprocessor for controlling the operation of the terminal;

5 imaging means for imaging the lottery ticket;

memory means for storing data pertinent to the lottery ticket; and

an automated lottery ticket cancellation device including means for receiving the lottery ticket therein and a thermal device for generating heat, the thermal device of the cancellation device permanently marking the lottery ticket at the area when positioned adjacent the thermal device prior 10 to the imaging the lottery ticket.

2. A system for canceling a uniquely numbered lottery ticket comprising:

a lottery ticket having a control number and an area with thermally reactive coating material disposed thereon; and

15 a terminal having a microprocessor for controlling the operation of the terminal, imaging means for imaging the lottery ticket, memory means for storing data pertinent to the lottery ticket, and an automated lottery ticket cancellation device including means for receiving the lottery ticket therein and a thermal device for generating heat, the thermal device of the cancellation device

permanently marking the lottery ticket at the area when positioned adjacent the thermal device prior to the imaging means imaging the lottery ticket.

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3. A process for canceling a uniquely numbered ticket having a control number and an area with thermally reactive coating material disposed thereon, the process comprising the steps of:

inserting the lottery ticket into a lottery terminal having means for receiving the lottery ticket therein;

activating the thermally reactive coating material of the lottery ticket for permanently marking the lottery ticket;

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imaging the lottery ticket for detecting the activated thermally reactive coating material and for reading the control number of the lottery ticket, and recording the control number.

4. A lottery terminal capable of canceling a uniquely numbered lottery ticket having a control number and an area with chemically reactive coating material disposed thereon, the terminal comprising:

a microprocessor for controlling the operation of the terminal;

imaging means for imaging the lottery ticket;

memory means for storing data pertinent to lottery ticket; and

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an automated lottery ticket cancellation device including means for receiving the lottery ticket therein and a radiant energy source for generating radiant energy, the radiant energy source of the cancellation device permanently marking the lottery ticket at the area when positioned adjacent the radiant energy source prior to the imaging means imaging.

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5. A process for canceling a uniquely numbered ticket having a control number and an area with chemically reactive coating material disposed thereon, the process comprising the steps of inserting the lottery ticket into a lottery terminal having means for receiving the lottery ticket therein;
- activating the chemically reactive coating material of the lottery ticket for permanently marking the lottery ticket;
- imaging the lottery ticket for detecting the activated chemically reactive coating material and for reading the control number of the lottery ticket; and recording the control number.

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